

# NEWS UPDATE

Shelby County Office of Preparedness-Memphis & Shelby County  
Emergency Management Agency-Bob Nations, Director

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER  
(901) 515-2525



September 5, 2008

Afternoon Update

## What's New Since the Last Update?

- FEMA continues to urge evacuees to keep all receipts for lodging and other expenses and register for disaster assistance at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362). See attached assistance bulletin from FEMA.
- Most of the FEMA-assisted evacuees being sheltered in Memphis are preparing for their trip home by Amtrak train. MATA buses will take evacuees to the train station late this afternoon. The train should be leaving Memphis sometime after 8 p.m.
- Those with “special needs” who have been residing at the Ed Rice Community Center will be taken back to the Gulf Coast by charter bus tomorrow morning.
- Many of the “special needs” evacuees have medical conditions. The journey by bus will be faster and more convenient than the train trip.
- Here are some helpful numbers for evacuees provided by the *Louisiana Recovery Authority*:
  1. Safe Return to Parish: Call 1-866-288-2485 or log on to [emergency.louisiana.gov](http://emergency.louisiana.gov).
  2. Road Closures: 1-888-762-3511 (out-of-state) or 511(in-state).
  3. Find family in a shelter: 1-800-957-1601.
  4. Sheltered Pet Information: 1-800-558-9741
  5. Food Stamp Questions: 1-888-524-3578
  6. Report Price Gouging: 1-800-351-4889
- Local numbers to call for help and information:
  1. 211 LINC Line (Memphis Public Library and Information Center)
  2. (901) 324-8799 (answered from 9 a.m. through 5 p.m.)
  3. (901) 515-2525 EMA Operations Command Center. This number is answered 24 hours a day.

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- **Since power is still out in many Gulf Coast communities, some evacuees who did not come to town by Amtrak train may continue to stay in these area shelters:**

1. Bishop Byrne High School-1475 East Shelby Drive
2. Hollywood Community Center-1560 North Hollywood
3. Memphis Catholic High School-61 North McLean
4. White Station Church of Christ-1101 Colonial Road
5. Bellevue Baptist Church-2000 Appling Road
6. Cummings Street Baptist Church-250 East Raines Road
7. Goodman Oaks Baptist Church-1700 Goodman Road, Southaven, Mississippi
8. Longview Heights Baptist Church-4501 Goodman Road, Olive Branch, Mississippi
9. Southaven Multipurpose Arena-7360 Highway 51, Southaven, Mississippi
10. First Baptist Church of West Memphis, Arkansas-200 Missouri Street
11. G.W. Henderson Senior Center-1165 Abbey Street, Tunica, Mississippi
12. Marion First Baptist Church-2137 Highway 77 Marion, Arkansas

► **We do not foresee a need to open any additional shelters at this time.**

**DONATIONS are no longer being accepted.**

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness/EMA Operations Center is open 24 hours a day. For additional information, call **(901) 515-2525**.

**(END OF RELEASE)**